

REMARKS

Status of the application

The pending claims have been examined. Claims 51 and 76 are indicated in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter. The independent claims are amended herein to incorporate allowable subject matter. Claims 55-77 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 55-77 are amended herein to address the Section 101 rejection. All pending claims are in condition for allowance. This Amendment is being filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Accordingly, entry of this Amendment and allowance of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Section 101 rejection

Claims 55-77 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, the Office Action states that "computer-readable storage medium" as recited in Claims 55-77 covers non-statutory transitory, propagating signals. Applicant disagrees as such non-statutory signals are not "storage media" because they are not capable of "storing" anything. However, solely to expedite allowance of the subject application, present Claims 55-77 now feature, in part, a **non-transitory** computer-readable medium. Examples of non-transitory computer-readable media described in Applicant's specification include statutory embodiments of "computer-readable media" as described in Applicant's specification including "storage media" such as "non-volatile media" and "volatile media", as described in the specification, paragraph [0072], and "a floppy disk, a flexible disk, hard disk, magnetic tape, or any other magnetic medium, a CD-ROM, any other optical medium, punchcards, papertape, any other physical medium with patterns of holes, a RAM, a PROM, and EPROM, a FLASH-EPROM, any other memory chip or cartridge," as described in the application, paragraph [0073]. Present Claims 55-77 exclude non-statutory transitory, propagating signals. Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 101 rejection is fully addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable subject matter

The Office Action states on page 16: 'a thorough review of the prior [art] fails to disclose "wherein the request for information does not include any value for a second parameter required by said particular web service; wherein the step of transforming includes supplementing the first input data with a value for said second parameter.'" Applicant agrees. Accordingly, the

independent claims have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter. For example, independent claim 1 now recites, among other things:

* * *

receiving at a web services broker, from a particular instance of a client application, a request for information, wherein said request includes an identification of a particular web service from which said particular instance wants said requested information, the request having first input data, **the first input data being in a form that cannot be used by said particular web service to service requests for said information at least in part because said first input data does not include any value for a first parameter required by the particular web service;**

* * *

providing said second input data from said first input data, wherein providing the second input data includes supplementing the first input data with a first value for said first parameter required by the particular web service;

* * *

Applicant's other independent claims 17, 49, 50, 55, and 61 have also been amended similar to Claim 1 to incorporate allowable subject matter. Support for the amendments to Claim 1 and the other independent claims can be found in at least paragraphs [0047]-[0048] of Applicant's specification.

Prior art issue

Claims 1-2, 5-8, 17-28, 30-32, 49-50, 53, 55-75 and 77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0156685 (hereinafter "Ehrlich") in view of U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0044729 (hereinafter "Foerg"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Applicant's independent claims include subject matter indicated in the Office Action as allowable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 17, 49, 50, 55, and 61 are allowable over Ehrlich and Foerg, individually and in combination.

New claims 78-87 each depend on an allowable independent claim discussed above.

Each of new claims 78-87 includes subject matter removed from the independent claim on which it depends. Each of new claims 78-87 are allowable for at least the reasons the independent claim on which it depends is allowable.

The pending claims not discussed so far are dependant claims that depend on an independent claim that is discussed above. Because each remaining dependant claim includes the features of claims upon which they depend, the remaining dependant claims are patentable for at least those reasons the claims upon which the remaining dependant claims depend are patentable.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the Section 103 rejection is overcome. Removal of that rejection and allowance of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone relating to any issue that would advance examination of the present application.

A petition for extension of time, to the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed, is hereby made. If applicable, a check for the petition for extension of time fee and other applicable fees is enclosed herewith. If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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